

CCS SB 988 -- HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS

MUNICIPAL HOSPITALS (Section 96.192, RSMo)

This bill allows the board of trustees of any authorized municipal hospital to invest up to 25% of the hospital's funds not required for immediate disbursement in any U.S. investment grade fixed income funds or diversified stock funds, or both. The provisions of the bill must only apply if the hospital:

- (1) Receives less than 1% of its annual revenue from municipal, county, or state taxes; and
- (2) Receives less than 1% of its annual revenue from appropriated funds from the municipality in which such hospital is located.

AMBULANCE DISTRICTS (Section 190.060)

The bill allows ambulance districts to adopt procedures for conducting fingerprint background checks on current and prospective employees, contractors, and volunteers.

STROKE CENTER DESIGNATIONS (Section 190.241)

The bill provides for an alternative stroke center designation for a hospital. The Department of Health and Senior Services must designate a hospital, upon receipt of an application, as follows:

- (1) A level I stroke center if the hospital has been certified as a comprehensive stroke center by the Joint Commission or another certifying organization;
- (2) A level II stroke center if the hospital has been certified as primary stroke center by the Joint Commission or other certifying organization; or
- (3) A level III stroke center if the hospital has been certified as an acute stroke-ready hospital by the Joint Commission or other certifying organization.

The department must not require compliance with any additional standards for establishing or renewing stroke designations and the designation must continue as long as the hospital remains certified. The department may remove a hospital's designation if the hospital so requests or if the department determines the certification has been suspended or revoked.

Any hospital receiving this alternative designation must submit annual proof of certification and other contact information, as

well as the certification survey results and other specified documents.

Hospitals designated as STEMI or stroke centers must submit data to the department for use in the evaluation and improvement of hospital and emergency medical services' trauma, stroke, and STEMI care. The hospitals must submit data to the department as described in the bill.

#### MEDICAL HELICOPTERS (Section 190.265)

Under the bill, any rules and regulations promulgated by the Department of Health and Senior Services, or any interpretation of such rules, must not require hospitals to have a fence or other barriers around a hospital helipad. Additionally, the department is prohibited from promulgating any rules and regulations with respect to the operation or construction of a helipad located at a hospital. The bill requires hospitals to ensure that helipads are free of obstruction and safe for use by a helicopter while on the ground, during approach, and takeoff.

This provision of the bill has an emergency clause.

#### CERTIFICATE OF NEED (Section 197.315)

Currently, facilities operated by the state are not required to obtain a certificate of need, appropriation of funds to such facilities by the General Assembly are deemed in compliance with certificate of need provisions, and such facilities are deemed to have received an appropriate certificate of need without payment of any fee or charge. The bill requires hospitals operated by the state and licensed under Chapter 197 to obtain a certificate of need and comply with the other provisions of certificate of need except for Department of Mental Health state-operated psychiatric hospitals. Certain types of equipment can still be purchased without a certificate of need.

This provision of the bill has an emergency clause.

#### COUNTY HOSPITAL INVESTMENTS (Section 205.165)

The bill allows the board of trustees of any county hospital to invest up to 15% of the hospital's funds not required for immediate disbursement in obligations or for the operations of the hospital into any mutual fund.

These provisions must only apply if the hospital is located in Boone County and receives less than 1% of its annual revenues from county or state taxes.